



Aircraft Operations In White Out or Flat Light Conditions

It is certain that such weather phenomena like flat light and white out have existed since the beginning of time.

To help maintain high safety standards, the FAA has created this seminar series and strongly encourages all pilots to attend.



Tuesday
February 25th, 2003
7:00 PM

Utah Valley State College

Student Center (Room 213C)
800 West University Parkway
Orem, Utah

For more information at this location
contact:
Steve Smith: 801-863-7791

Wednesday
March 5th, 2003
7:00 PM

Cedar City
Chamber of Commerce Building
Cedar City, Utah

For more information at this location
contact:
Stan Griffith: 435-590-1916

Thursday
February 27th, 2003
7:00 PM

AeroWest Aviation

475 South Donlee Dr.
St. George, Utah

For more information at this location
contact:
Dan Smith: 435-229-3975

Thursday
March 6th, 2003
7:00 PM

Utah State University

Technology Building
Room 108

Logan, Utah

For more information at this location
contact:
Jack Hunter: 435-753-7894

Wednesday
March 5th, 2003
7:00 PM

Ogden Airport
Airport Terminal Building
Ogden, Utah

For more information at this location
contact:
Ed Rich: 801-629-8251

Thursday
March 6th, 2003
7:00 PM

Westminster College

Gore School of Business Auditorium
1840 South 1300 East

Salt Lake City, Utah

For more information at this location
contact:
Gordon Hill: 801-321-0343

Times and Dates subject to change!!!

***For up-to-date information check our web site at: www.faa.gov/fsdo/slc
or call Richard C. Stednitz, FAA Safety Program Manager 1-800-532-0268 x 171***

**Federal Aviation Administration
Aviation Safety Program
Salt Lake City, FSDO-NM07
116 North 2400 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84116-2984**

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For more information on these seminars and other FAA Safety Program events logon to:

www.faa.gov/fsdo/slc

All pilots are welcome to attend these FREE safety seminars.

Do you have an E-Mail address?

Register it with airman records:

<http://registry/amsvcs.asp>

**We want to thank AeroWest
Aviation, Cedar City Chamber of
Commerce, Ogden Airport
Management, USA Flightnet, Utah
State University, Utah Valley State
College, and Westminster College
for their efforts in promoting
Aviation Safety!**

Remember! Safety is no Accident!

Flat Light

Flat light is an optical illusion, also known as "sector or partial white out." It is not as severe as "white out" but the condition causes pilots to lose their depth-of-field and contrast in vision. Flat light conditions are usually accompanied by overcast skies inhibiting any good visual clues. Such conditions can occur anywhere in the world, primarily in snow covered areas but can occur in dust, sand, mud flats, or on glassy water. Flat light can completely obscure features of the terrain, creating an inability to distinguish distances and closure rates. As a result of this reflected light, it can give pilots the illusion that you are ascending or descending when you may actually be flying level. However, with good judgment and proper training and planning, it is possible to safely operate an aircraft in flat light conditions.

White Out

As defined in meteorological terms, white out is when a person becomes engulfed in a uniformly white glow. The glow is a result of being surrounded by blowing snow, dust, sand, mud or water. There are no shadows, no horizon or clouds and all depth-of-field and orientation are lost. A white out situation is severe in that there aren't any visual references. Flying is not recommended in any white out situation. Flat light conditions can lead to a white out environment quite rapidly, and both atmospheric conditions are insidious; they sneak up on you as your visual references slowly begin to disappear. White out has been the cause of several aviation accidents in snow-covered areas.